



FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST



Request Number: F-2011-01957

Keyword: Crime

Subject: Crimes Recorded By Children Under 10 Years Of Age 2008-2011

Request and Answer:

This is to inform you that the Police Service of Northern Ireland has now completed its search for the information you requested. The decision has been taken to disclose the located information to you in full.

Question

How many incidents has the force dealt with involving children under the age of ten committing criminal offences? Please provide separate figures for 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011 so far, and in each case specify the following:

The age of the child

The month the offence took place

Whether the child was arrested

What the alleged offence or offences were.

Answer

Please see tables below for the following years 2008, 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Children under ten cannot be arrested - Children under the age of 10 are not considered to have reached an age where they can be held responsible for their crimes. Because they are under the age of 'Criminal responsibility' they cannot be charged with any criminal offence. No child under the age of ten shall be guilty of a crime; however they can still commit an offence which will be recorded. The Home Office Counting Rules state..... 'All reports of crimes made where the offender (if age known or otherwise) is under the age of 10 years should be recorded as a crime'.

If you have any queries regarding your request or the decision please do not hesitate to contact me on 028 9070 0164. When contacting the Freedom of Information Team, please quote the reference number listed at the beginning of this letter.

If you are dissatisfied in any way with the handling of your request, you have the right to request a review. You should do this as soon as possible, or in any case within two months of the date of issue of this letter. In the event that you require a review to be undertaken, you can do so by writing to the Head of Freedom of Information, PSNI Headquarters, 65 Knock Road, Belfast, BT5 6LE or by emailing foi@psni.pnn.police.uk.

If following an internal review, carried out by an independent decision maker, you were to remain dissatisfied in any way with the handling of the request you may make a complaint, under Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act, to the Information Commissioner's Office and ask that they investigate whether the PSNI has complied with the terms of the Freedom of Information Act. You can write to the Information Commissioner at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. In most circumstances the Information Commissioner will not investigate a complaint unless an internal review procedure has been carried out, however the Commissioner has the option to investigate the matter at his discretion.

Please be advised that PSNI replies under Freedom of Information may be released into the public domain via our website @ www.psnipolice.uk

Personal details in respect of your request have, where applicable, been removed to protect confidentiality.

AG	OFFENCE	Jan 2008	Feb 2008	Mar 2008	Apr 2008	May 2008	Jun 2008	Jul 2008	Aug 2008	Sep 2008	Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	2008
3	Criminal Damage	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Motoring	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
4	Motoring	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Sexual Offences	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
5	ASB	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Common Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
	Hoax Calls	0	0	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
	Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
6	ASB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Common Assault	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	3
	Hoax Calls	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Sexual Offences	1	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	4
	Theft	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3
7	ASB	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	3
	Common Assault	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	5
	Hoax Calls	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Motoring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Possession of Alcohol	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Theft	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	1	4
8	Arson	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	ASB	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	3	0	0	0	7
	Common Assault	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	4
	Criminal Damage	0	2	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	11
	Firework Related Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	GBH	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Sexual Offences	2	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
	Theft	1	0	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	6
9	Alcohol Related	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	ASB	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	4
	Common Assault	1	0	3	2	1	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	12
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	1	2	1	0	8
	Disorderly Behaviour	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Firework Related Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Hoax Calls	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Motoring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Sexual Offences	0	2	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	7
Theft	3	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	7	
	TOTAL Age 0-9 Year Olds	11	7	15	9	21	11	20	14	7	7	6	4	132

AGE	OFFENCE	Jan 2009	Feb 2009	Mar 2009	Apr 2009	May 2009	Jun 2009	Jul 2009	Aug 2009	Sep 2009	Oct 2009	Nov 2009	Dec 2009	Total 2009
4	ASB	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
	Common Assault	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	3
5	ASB	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2
	Sexual Offences	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
6	ASB	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Criminal Damage	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Motoring	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Arson	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	2
7	ASB	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	3	0	0	0	0	5
	Common Assault	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	2
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	1	5
	Offensive Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2
	Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Theft	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
8	ASB	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	8
	Common Assault	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	4
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	3
	Disorderly Behaviour	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Firework Related Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	Public Order Related	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Theft	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	2
9	ASB	1	1	0	2	1	1	1	1	3	2	0	0	13
	Common Assault	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	4
	Criminal Damage	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	3	1	0	1	8
	Firework Related Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	2
	Offensive Weapon	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Public Order Related	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
	Sexual Offences	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Theft	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	3
	TOTAL Age 0-9 Year Old	7	8	4	11	3	5	6	10	15	11	6	3	89

Table For 2010

AGE	OFFENCE	Jan 2010	Mar 2010	May 2010	Jul 2010	Oct 2010	Total 2010
7	Motoring	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Theft	0	0	0	0	1	1
8	ASB	4	0	1	0	0	5
	Criminal Damage	1	0	0	0	0	1
	Sexual Offences	1	1	0	0	0	2
9	Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0	1	1
	ASB	2	0	0	0	0	2
	Criminal Damage	0	0	0	1	0	1
Total Age 0-9 Year Old		9	1	1	1	2	14

Table For 2011

AGE	OFFENCE	Jan 2011	Mar 2011	Apr 2011	May 2011	Jun 2011	Total 2011
6	Criminal Damage	0	1	0	0	0	1
9	AOABH	0	0	0	1	0	1
	Common Assault	1	0	0	1	1	3
	Criminal Damage	0	1	0	0	0	1
	Theft	0	0	2	0	0	2
Total Age 0-9 Year Old		1	1	2	2	1	8